

## House Joint Resolution 8 - Introduced

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 8

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution requesting the proposal of an amendment  
2 to the Constitution of the United States imposing fiscal  
3 restraints upon and limiting the power and jurisdiction of  
4 the federal government.  
5 WHEREAS, the founders of the Constitution of the United  
6 States empowered state legislators to be guardians of liberty  
7 against future abuses of power by the federal government; and  
8 WHEREAS, the federal government has created a crushing  
9 national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and  
10 WHEREAS, the federal government has invaded the legitimate  
11 roles of the states through the manipulative process of federal  
12 mandates, most of which are unfunded to a great extent; and  
13 WHEREAS, the federal government has ceased to live under  
14 a proper interpretation of the Constitution of the United

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15 States; and

16 WHEREAS, it is the solemn duty of the states to protect  
17 the liberty of our people, particularly for the generations  
18 to come, by proposing amendments to the Constitution of the  
19 United States through a convention of the states under Article  
20 V of the Constitution for the purpose of restraining these and  
21 related abuses of power; NOW THEREFORE,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 That the Congress of the United States is hereby petitioned  
2 to propose an amendment to the Constitution of the United  
3 States, for submission to the states for ratification, to  
4 impose fiscal restraints on the federal government and limit  
5 the federal government's power and jurisdiction; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, alternatively, pursuant to  
7 Article V of the Constitution of the United States, the General  
8 Assembly, as the Legislature of the State of Iowa, makes  
9 application to the Congress of the United States to call a  
10 convention for the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing  
11 an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, for  
12 submission to the states for ratification, to impose fiscal  
13 restraints on the federal government and limit the federal  
14 government's power and jurisdiction; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That if, within sixty days after  
16 the legislatures of two-thirds of the states make application  
17 for such convention, Congress proposes and submits to the  
18 states for ratification an amendment to the Constitution of the  
19 United States which imposes fiscal restraints on the federal  
20 government and limits the federal government's power and  
21 jurisdiction, then this application for a convention shall no  
22 longer be of any force and effect; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this application constitutes  
24 a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the  
25 Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at  
26 least two-thirds of the several states have made applications  
27 for a similar convention under Article V, or the Congress has  
28 proposed the amendments called for by this Joint Resolution, or  
29 the General Assembly acts to withdraw this application; and

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State  
31 shall transmit certified copies of this Joint Resolution  
32 to the President and Secretary of the United States  
33 Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of  
34 Representatives, the presiding officer in each house of the  
35 legislature in each of the states in the union, and to the

1 members of Iowa's congressional delegation requesting their  
2 cooperation.

3 EXPLANATION

4 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
5 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

6 This joint resolution constitutes a petition requesting the  
7 United States Congress to amend the United States Constitution,  
8 for submission to the states for ratification, to impose fiscal  
9 restraints on the federal government and limit the federal  
10 government's power and jurisdiction.

11 Alternatively, the joint resolution provides that pursuant  
12 to Article V of the United States Constitution, the Iowa  
13 General Assembly applies to the United States Congress to  
14 call a convention for the specific and exclusive purpose of  
15 proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution, for  
16 submission to the states for ratification, to impose fiscal  
17 restraints on the federal government and limit the federal  
18 government's power and jurisdiction.

19 Additionally, the joint resolution provides that if within  
20 60 days after the legislatures of two-thirds of the states make  
21 application for such convention, Congress proposes and submits  
22 to the states for ratification an amendment to the Constitution  
23 of the United States which imposes fiscal restraints on the  
24 federal government and limits the federal government's power  
25 and jurisdiction, then the application for a convention shall  
26 no longer be of any force and effect.

27 Further, the joint resolution provides that it shall serve  
28 as a continuing application to call a constitutional convention  
29 until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several  
30 states have made application for a similar convention, or the  
31 Congress has proposed the amendments called for by the joint  
32 resolution, or the General Assembly withdraws the application.

33 Finally, the joint resolution requires the Secretary  
34 of State to transmit certified copies of the resolution to  
35 the President and Secretary of the United States Senate,

1 the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of  
2 Representatives, the presiding officer in each house of the  
3 legislature in each of the states in the union, and the members  
4 of Iowa's congressional delegation.